

Information Bureau

Is it ever lawful to expel a member from the church?

It certainly is. Continued acts of disobedience justify a local congregation to withdraw fellowship from the disobedient. It is clear however that according to the teachings of Jesus and the apostles the church is to exhaust all its resources in its effort to save the erring one before expulsion is resorted to. It is the mission of the church to save, not to destroy; that was Christ's mission; that is our mission, and it is for the church in its own council to determine whether it is profitable to carry along a disobedient member. Multitudes there are, who if the influence of the church and the good of the cause, were made the first consideration, would be forthwith disfellowshipped; but it is to the credit of the church that in her discipline she is lenient and forbearing with the erring member. That is Christ-like.

Was Christ omniscient? If so, how can we harmonize Mark 13:32?

The reference reads as follows. "But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father." In the first place it is not at all necessary to harmonize this scripture with the idea of Christ's omniscience. Holy scripture is not out of joint that it needs mortal man to harmonize it. The contradictions in our own life arising from our imperfections unfit us for such a task, and we have reasons to be devoutly thankful that the Lord does not require us to make his word harmonize. The Bible is the revelation of the divine and infinite mind to the human and finite mind. What wonder that contradictions should appear! Who are we that we should rise up and declare that this revelation of the divine mind to man contradicts itself? Man is a bundle of contradictions, and what seems to him a contradiction is not necessarily so. We do not understand that either God or Christ is omniscient independent of the exercise of the will. God knows all things when he *will*s to know all things; he did not *will* to know what would be the fate of man when he created him, else why should it be written that it repented him that he made man. On his divine side Christ was omniscient, but being human there were limitations in which the Son of God moved when here on earth. He did not always exercise the divine power that was in him, the glory which made him like the Father. Jesus did not know the day of his coming because he did not *will* to know. He *will*ed to know what was in man, and he knew. He *will*ed to read the secret thoughts of his enemies, and he read them.

Quiet Observer

I have often marveled at the unkindness and the evil temper displayed by people of refinement and in Christian homes. While it is sweetly true that the loveliness acts and the tenderest words this world affords are furnished by its homes, it is also sadly true that there are many elder brothers who, with their ill nature, are marring otherwise happy homes.

An evil temper is one of the most distressing things that can burden a household. It is not reasonable, neither is it philosophical or refined; and it is not kind nor right nor Christian. Truly, "Of all bad things by which mankind are cursed, Their own bad tempers surely are the worst."

It is not an uncommon thing to hear fathers and mothers and children hurl at one another harsh,

cruel words because they have not learned self-control. An even temperament is the mark of a well rounded character just as an ill temper is the mark of an unsymmetrical character. A sweet temper is to be desired by all who do not possess it; and it ought constantly to be cultivated. We should have gentleness and kindness of heart in our everyday speech just as much as we have them in feeding the poor and relieving the suffering. Our friends can claim from us a benevolent temper just as truly as the hungry can claim from us a generous hand.

What a mark of good breeding a soft voice and a well governed temper are. They bespeak culture. I wonder whether those who are given to outbursts of vexation ever have considered the fault in its true light. Henry Drummond says of evil temper that "for embittering life, for breaking up communities, for destroying the most sacred relationships, for devastating homes, for withering up men and women for taking the bloom off childhood, in short, for sheer gratuitous misery-producing power, this influence stands alone." And again, "It is the lightening form of a hundred hideous and un-Christian sins. For a want of patience, a want of kindness, a want of generosity, a want of courtesy, a want of unselfishness, are all instantaneously symbolized in one flash of temper." Very often, I think, we are prone to look upon an evil temper as a natural fault and thus we excuse it. It is a sin that is not to be overlooked. It is to be shunned by the Christian along with other kindred sins. It is a physical wrong. It is a waste of energy, for it never betters unpleasant conditions. It defies a loving and lovable disposition and leads one away from the Master who showed at all times the charity that "is not easily provoked."

College Notes

Prof. Miller's Sunday sermon was well given and well received. A good sermon on Sunday is an inspiration for the work of the week.

The young people's meeting lead by E. A. Garber Sunday evening was well attended and some very interesting talks were given. Our Y. P. S. C. E. is the largest in the city and is doing excellent work.

The college library continues to grow. Prof. Furry has worked earnestly to increase it and his efforts are being rewarded. Let every member of the Brethren church remember that he has a share in the college and then let him put his shoulder to the wheel to "make her go."

Do you read the editor's articles upon the college endowment? What are you going to do about it? Every institution at some time or other reaches a critical point. Ashland College has reached it. Three years of excellent work has been done by teachers who have made great sacrifices to make the school a success. This they cannot continue to do. Will the brotherhood of the Brethren church rally to the support of their only institution of learning? The next few years determine the future of Ashland College. It takes more than fine buildings and a faculty to make a denominational college. It requires the loyal support of the denomination. The first two we have but the last we feel that we have not. There is an apathy on the part of the church in general which is discouraging. Last fall when the *Purple and Gold* was first introduced personal letters were written to fifty-three of our ministers and nine replies were received. Does that represent the proportion that are interested in Ashland College? What other conclusion can we draw when former students and members of the faculty do not even honor the college paper so much as to send in their own subscription. Brethren, if you want a Brethren College you must bear part of the burden. Colleges do not run automatically. They must be run by those who are interested in them.

The College Library

Our library continues to grow. Our friends are gradually coming to our assistance. We wish to encourage others to do so. We need everything our friends can do for us. The creation of a library must rest largely with the church. We have no fund whatever for the purchase of books. And a library we must have if we would have a college. What else is a college but a collection of books and scholars? The one is almost altogether useless and meaningless without the other.

Some one has expressed this same thought in this way: "A library without a scholar is a pile of bricks without an architect, useless—meaningless; a scholar without a library is an architect without bricks, helpless, worthless. A scholar in a library, a library for a scholar and both constituent parts of the college represent the affluence, the power and the progress of learning."

Let me quote also from Dr. Thwing touching the value of a library to a college. He says: "The American College, therefore, has in its library an instrument of mighty usefulness for serving mankind. No wisdom is too practical, no consecration too hearty, no endowment too rich, to be devoted to its development. No house is too fair or too fine for holding its books, provided only the house facilitates their use. No administrative expense is too costly for making its resources more accessible. The library is worthy of the best for it helps to make the best in the student and the teacher." (College Administration, p. 193.)

It is very evident then that the library plays a very important part and an ever increasing part, in the organization and administration of the college. A gift therefore, to the college library, either of books or money to be used in the purchasing of books must receive the very heartiest commendation. It is to be hoped that the church will appreciate our need as well as an opportunity to do great and permanent good and will come more and more to our assistance.

The books sent will be carefully cared for, and if the College should not continue, (and who can think that it will not continue) these books, if desired, will be given back to the donors. No one need entertain doubts that the books will not be cared for and thus hesitate to contribute.

The following have been contributed since the last report was made:

TITLE	DONOR
Home Life in the Bible	Dr. Beachley
Passover and Lord's Supper, (Beer)	"
Fairy Queen, (Spenser)	J. M. Olinger
Dodridge's Rise and Progress	"
Land of the Montezumas	"
Evidences of Christianity	"
Life of Christ, (Fleetwood)	Mrs. Beachley
Christian Family Companion, Vol. 6	"
Emerson's Essays, (Comp.)	Mrs. H. M. Cook
Romola	"
Autocrat at Breakfast Table	"
Civil Government	H. M. Cook
Natural Law in Spiritual World	Clara Neibel
Life of Adams	Julius Kimmel
Letters from the Holy Land, (Miller)	"
Cash received.—Alma Hardman, \$2.00; Kate Olinger, \$1.00.	

You will notice that we have received Vol. 6, of the Christian Family Companion, edited by brother H. R. Holsinger. These have a historical value and we should be pleased to gather a full set. Is it possible to do so? Are there not others that will send us one or more volumes? If you have them unbound why not have them bound and place them in our library for the benefit of our Theological students.

WM. D. FURRY.

CANCER CURED
WITH SOOTHING, BALMY OILS.
Cancer, Tumor, Catarrh, Piles, Fistula, Ulcers,
Eczema and all Skin and Womb Diseases. Write
for Illustrated Book. Sent free. Address
DR. BYE, Cor. 9th & Broadway, Kansas City, Mo.